

MIDSTATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

**MARC**

*"Ham Radio News from Johnson County, Indiana"*



MAY 1993



## UPGRADES AT APRIL SESSION

Of the nineteen applicants at the April VE Test session in Franklin, the following received upgrades:

Gerald Bowsher	Edinburgh	NC Tech
Scott Brown	Indianapolis	NC Tech
George Burton	Whiteland	NC Tech
Thomas Donaldson	Greenfield	General
John Fleming	Shelbyville	Advanced
Steven Grubor	Mooreville	Tech
David Hall *	Indianapolis	Tech
Ben Kiel	Columbus	NC Tech
Marilyn Parton *	Whiteland	Tech
Donald Ping	Camby	General
Todd Siebenmorgan	Mooreville	Tech
LeRoy Thompson *	Indianapolis	Tech

\* indicates member of MARC

Also, Carlos Ramirez-Rios passed element 2 toward his license. The next Franklin Test Session will be May 15th at 9:30.

## RECENTLY ISSUED AREA 9 CALLSIGNS (As of April 1, 1993)

Ex: AA9GM Adv: KF9OM Tech/Gen: N9SZR  
Novice: KB9IML.

## FCC: FOREIGN LICENSING

A new rule being considered for temporary use by foreign visitors would give authority to VE Teams to issue a Certificate of Completion after determining which American license matches the privileges of the applicant. They would also have to pass a test on the American Rules and Regulations.

## "NO BUSINESS" RULE CHANGE

The proposal to amend Rule 97.113 to allow a broader interpretation of the "no business" transmissions in Amateur Radio has reached the final stage. According to the FCC, "the item is in the review cycle and once approved by the Bureau goes on to the commission". The results of this proceeding could have far reaching results! Public comments have indicated that interpretation of the proposed rule change will be very complicated.

## NEW NOVICE/TECH POOLS

The new Novice and Tech question pools are scheduled to go into effect July 1, 1993. All VE's have been instructed to use these questions and to be able to furnish question pools to General class and higher who anticipate giving the Novice test.

Because of the No-Code Tech license it was necessary to change both the Novice and the Tech pools at the same time. New General Class questions will go into effect July 1, 1994 and Advanced in 1995 with Extra in 1996. Amateurs planning to take either novice or tech tests should prepare with the proper pool for the time of their test session.

## HAM FESTS FOR 1993

May 23	Richland College	Decatur, Il.	8AM-2PM	146.73
June 6	Princeton Ham Fest	Princeton, Il.		146.355
June 19	Milford Ham Fest	Milford, Oh.	8AM-3PM	147.345
July 10-11	Indy Ham Fest	Fairgrounds	7AM-5PM	
July 31	Mist Atari Fest	Indianapolis		
Aug 1	Land Of Lakes	Angola, In.	6AM-1PM	147.18
Sept 5	Cent. Ind. Hamfest	Indianapolis	8AM-4PM	
Sept 19	Cincinatti Fest	Cincinatti, Oh.	8AM-5PM	



## SMILE ! YOU'RE ON HAM RADIO!

Imagine having on-the-air conversations with hams you can actually see. When they smile, you'll see them smile. When they wave, you'll watch them wave. If they have a new gadget to show you, you'll see it operate firsthand. Does this sound incredible? For hams who operate fast-scan amateur television (FSTV), it's an everyday occurrence!

Fast-scan amateur television is better known among hams as simply ATV (although the term ATV also applies to slow-scan TV). ATV is enjoyed by anyone with a ham license. Novices, for example, have ATV privileges from 1270 to 1295 MHz. Hams licensed at the Technician class or higher enjoy the most flexibility. They have full access to all amateur frequencies above 50 MHz, and most ATV activity is concentrated in the 420-440 and 902-928 MHz bands. If you're able to take advantage of these privileges, you'll have a great time with television!

What Can You Do with ATV? Here are just a few ideas to tickle your imagination:

- o Show videotapes of Field Day or one of our good club programs!
- o Show off your Ham Shack!
- o Transmit videotape of your last great vacation or camping trip. Show 'em the fish you caught!
- o Show off your latest radio or ATV equipment..
- o Transmit a videotape of your new car with detailed views of the interior, engine and so on. (No one says the content has to relate to Amateur Radio!)
- o Mount an ATV transmitter and camera in a balloon, a radio-controlled model airplane, car, boat or rocket. You can transmit just about anything on

ATV, as long as it isn't affected by copyright laws or FCC prohibitions against using Amateur Radio for business purposes. For example, you can't tape a television program and retransmit it on ATV. If you're a real estate agent, you can't show pictures of the homes you have for sale on ATV. There are also prohibitions against transmitting video with music or obscene content.

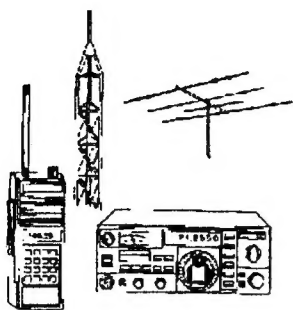
ATV has terrific public service potential. You can take your portable ATV station aboard a police or National Guard helicopter to survey the extent of forest fires, floods and storm damage. Parades, walkathons, bicycle races and other outdoor activities can be supported by skillful placement of mobile ATV units. ATV-equipped weather observers can aid National Weather Service officials by showing them live images of storms or tornadoes. Some ATV clubs have linked their ATV repeaters with National Weather Service radar. When severe weather threatens, hams throughout the community can watch the development of approaching storms.

Some hams combine hobbies by controlling their radio-controlled aircraft, boats and cars with a pilot's-eye view monitored from a camera installed in their miniature craft. Amateur rocketeers mount ATV equipment inside model rocket nose-cones for a rapid ride up to several thousand feet, watching the world recede beneath their "eye in the sky."

You can also receive weather radar from the Indianapolis repeater! (This can be useful during our severe weather nets.)

Probably there would be more hams involved in ATV if they knew more about it. Most don't have any idea what equipment they would need and what antenna would work best. More importantly there seems to be no local "expert" to call on for information and assistance!

Present plans call for Don Miller W9NTP to give us a program on ATV at the May meeting. Several club members have indicated an interest in this, so we will follow-up with an article on ATV equipment, e in the June issue of Spark-Gap. This will be a rare opportunity to get ATV information!



## NEW E. O. C. RIGS

"It was like Christmas in April," said Bill Brinkman, KA9ZMU, "I felt like a kid in a candy store!" As Johnson county RACES director Bill was given the pleasant task of purchasing several new pieces of ham radio equipment for the amateur radio EOC base station.

"We got a Kenwood TS-140 HF rig. It can be used for everything from 10 thru 160 meters. The Cushcraft R7 multi-band HF antenna will be mounted on the roof," Brinkman said. The Cushcraft R7 is a trap vertical that will replace a 75 meter dipole currently on the roof. A MFJ-962-C, 1.5kw antenna tuner was also purchased. This will give RACES operators the ability to fine tune the R7 or use wire antennas during emergency field operations.

The EOC packet station was upgraded with the installation of the new PK232MBX tnc. This is a dual port multi-mode controller. "We also bought a Diamond X300 dual band base antenna. It will be mounted on the tower out back as soon as possible," Bill said. Emergency management director Sam Williams purchased a Yaesu dual band radio late last year to be used as a base/mobile at the EOC. This will allow the club to have a packet station operating while maintaining communications on 2 meter and 70 cm.

Rounding out Bill's day at the R&L "candy store" is a new Astron 35 amp power supply and a Kenwood MC 80 desk mike. "Once we get people trained we'll be able to help out with almost any mode of ham radio communications during a disaster," Bill added. "Anyone wishing to train as a net control operator should see me as soon as possible." Future plans call for a six meter base radio and antenna to be added to the EOC base station. Plans are being formulated to allow all club members to use the new HF equipment on request. -- NT9J

## BEN'S WEATHER TIPS

By Ben Woods Channel 8 TV

Dear Weather Watcher: It can be quite pleasant to be outdoors while we have these warm spring-time temperatures. The month of April was a bit colder than normal. Indianapolis averaged 50.7 degrees, which is 1.7 degrees colder than it should be for April. Although we didn't have any measurable snowfall last month, we did have a trace of the "white lumpy rain" on April 1st, 2nd, 5th, 16th, and 17th.

Total precipitation in Indianapolis was 3.75 inches (0.05" wetter than normal). April was a bit foggy too. The airport recorded 13 days last month with fog, although most of the time the fog wasn't very dense. The outlook for May calls for near normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.

Whatever the season, meteorologists rely heavily on information from weather satellites. These satellites are set up in what's called a "geostationary orbit" so that their orbit coincides exactly with the rotation of the earth. This allows the satellite to send us pictures from the same vantage point.

The first weather satellite (TIROS I) was put into orbit 30 years ago in March of 1963. Since then an increasing amount of imagery has been available from space. Presently the U.S. has two operational geostationary satellites. Both these satellites are getting old. And (GEOS-7) has run out of fuel. Fuel is used in maneuvering the satellite to maintain its exact position.

GEOS-7 will experience orbital inclination (satellite drift) to the point that long animation satellite loops (like the ones we use on WISH-TV) will begin to be affected later this year. NASA is building new satellites but they probably won't be ready until spring of '94.

Ben Woods, WISH-TV8 Meteorologist.

If computers get too powerful, organize them into committees... that will do them in!



## HAVE YOU HEARD THIS?

### THE THREE LEGGED PIG

A guy walks into a pub with a pig under his arm, and this pig has a wooden leg. He orders a beer and a dish of water for the pig. The barman says, "Tell me, how did your pig there get a wooden leg?"

The guy replies, "Look mate, this is a bloody fantastic pig! One day I was driving home late at night when I fell asleep and crashed the car. The pig jumped out, set my broken leg, found me water, and kept me warm until help arrived. Bloody fantastic pig this!"

Then the barman says, "That's a pretty impressive pig all right, but you haven't told me how it got its wooden leg."

So the guy says, "Listen mate, a few weeks ago I was going to America for a trip. Well some idiot opened the plane door and I was sucked out. I thought that was the end for me, but far above me I saw the pig jump out of the plane. It swam through the air to me, strapped on a parachute, and landed me in the sea, blew up a rubber raft, paddled to shore, hailed a taxi, and got me to my meeting with an hour to spare!"

And the barman says, "Wow! That sure is some pig you have there, but you still haven't told me how it got its wooden leg!"

So the guy says, "Listen mate, if you had a pig this good, would you eat it all at once?"

\*\* \*\* \*

Man: Your honor, we were not gambling for money. We just played with poker chips!

Judge: Chips are money! Fine is \$300.00!

So the man gave the judge 3 chips!

\*\*\* An enterprising businessman perfected a fork-like device that when inserted into a fish would cook it to perfection in minutes. Soon many copies of his invention flooded the market and the businessman called a news conference. He held up his invention and said, "Ladies and gentlemen: These are the tines that fry men's soles!"

\*\*\* FINAL EXAM IN MED SCHOOL:

You have been provided with a razor blade, a piece of gauze and a bottle of scotch. Remove your appendix. Do not suture until your work has been inspected. You have 15 minutes.

\*\*\* FINAL EXAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

There is a red telephone on the desk beside you. Start World War III. Report at length on its socio-political effects, if any.

\*\*\* FINAL EXAM IN ENGINEERING

The disassembled parts of a high-powered rifle are on your desk. There is also an instruction manual written in Swahili. In 10 minutes a hungry Bengal tiger will be admitted to the room. Respond as you see fit!

\*\*\*Two farmers were talking about an upcoming election. The first farmer said, "Say your six boys grew up to be good politicians didn't they?" "All except Jake. He learned to read!"

\*\*\*According to a recent government publication:

A billion seconds ago Harry Truman was president. A billion minutes ago was the time of Christ. A billion hours ago man did not yet walk the earth. A billion dollars ago was late yesterday at the U.S. Treasury.....

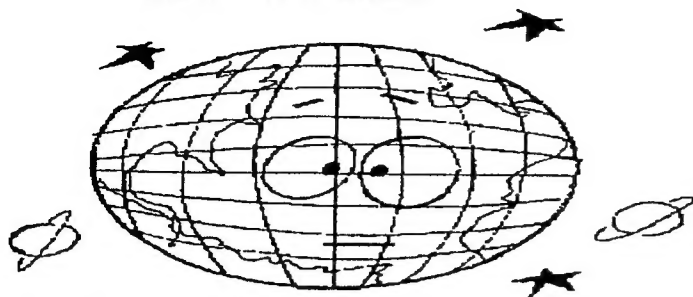
\*\*\*Dear Abby:

I have two brothers, one is a ham, the other was sentenced to death in the gas chamber. My mother died of insanity and my two sisters are prostitutes and my father sells narcotics. Recently I met a girl who was released from a reformatory for child abuse. I love this girl and want to marry her. My problem is this: Shall I tell her about my brother who is a ham?

\*\*\* A mind is a terrible thing to waste, but a waist is a terrible thing to mind!



## MY WORLD



The following contains portions of an article by Bob DeSpain, WB5VZT called "MY WORLD" that he maintains on packet.

Roy's N9PFZ tower is down on the ground. Seems he didn't like the idea of climbing such a tall tower! Its the sudden stop that hurts, Roy! He is using a temporary antenna while his tower is being painted and antennas adjusted. He plans to use a SKY HOOK to raise the tower.

Bill KA9ZMU has the EOC packet back on the air. The EOC callsigns are: BBS KA9ZMU-3 or EOCMBX, The Knode is KA9ZMU-8, the Netnode is KA9ZMU-2 or JOCO. Bill is also the new Johnson County Emergency Management RACES Officer. Good luck Bill in your new position.

Mrs. Parton passed her Code-technician test. Congratulations and welcome to the world of Amateur Radio! Hope you have many enjoyable contacts.

WB9AYB, Bob Doles, has just confirmed DON MILLER, W9NTP, as the speaker for the May 15, Midstate Radio Club meeting. Don is internationally known in ATV circles...especially SLOW SCAN TV. He will be speaking to an ATV group in England during the last week in April. Don't miss this opportunity to hear this extremely knowledgeable speaker about "Getting Started in Amateur T.V." Again, that is at the May 15 MARC meeting at the Johnson County EOC. Mark your calendar and plan to bring a friend!!!

## CONGRATULATIONS



Bill Brinkmann, KA9ZMU has recently graduated with an Associates degree. It took a while with both full and part time work, but he did it! So congratulations Bill, it was worth the effort!

Several local hams went to the Dayton Hamfest. A few found some Bargains. One in particular slept all the way to Dayton and back. All went well, but Cory kept getting lost.(a private joke HI)

Congratulation to the newly weds: Eric (KB9BGS) and Carol exchanged wedding vows at the 91st Street Christian Church on Saturday the 24th of April. The recep-



tion was at The Oak Mansion on 116th street. Eric and Carol will honeymoon in the Virgin Islands and will reside in Carmel. Several of the local hams attended both events. The hams were: Ladies first, Karen N9KMH, Joe KA9ZPA, Bob WB9AYB, Jack NT9J, Mike KK9V, Bob N9IMP, Andy N9KZE, and WB5VZT. Eric's new address will be: 655 E. 82nd St., Indianapolis 46240. His new phone number is 257-1282.

I have the newest SAM Amateur Radio Callsign Database. Now all I have to do is figure how to make it work on packet. Any ideas, Mike? NOTE: Bob, Steve N9NZI says the program you need to add it to the packet station is already on the disks you are using! Check with him.

If you are available after the meeting saturday you might offer to help Bill KA9ZMU with some tower work, pulling cables, etc.

Notes from Jack, NT9J: May club meeting May 15, 8AM in the EOC training room. Program is Don Miller, leading authority on Amateur TV. Breakfast at 7AM in House of Franklin before the meeting.

Indiana Combined Training Association Cross County Horse Event on saturday June 5th 8:30 to 5:30. Lunch provided. Need 24 hams. Hoosier Horse Park at Camp Atterbury. Bring 2 Mtr radio, batteries, chair, sun tan oil, drinks, mosquito repellent, raincoat and family if desired. Contact Jack NT9J if you can help.

Field Day June 26 and 27 at the Johnson County Park Office at Camp Atterbury. Set-up 8AM saturday. Operate rigs until 1PM sunday. Contact NT9J or KB9HSE if you can help out!

Need 6 hams for the Masonic Home event sunday, June 13th 8AM-1PM. Lunch provided. Bring 2 mtr. rig and battery, plus lawn chair and usual comfort equipment. Contact Jack NT9J or Bob WB9AYB if you can help.

I hear that Mac, NV9K, has a supply of jokes, and will produce a JOKE OF THE DAY on packet. Check into the EOCMBX daily. They may not all be funny, but at least you will know there is something new there every day!

The Kantronic D4-10 Data Radio is here and we have a 27 element 440 beam ready to put up at 90 feet. This radio will be used to connect to W9QYQ and K9IU at 9600 baud through KA9ZPA-1.

Joe and Bob went to Lawrenceburg, Ky Saturday to take a base station and 5 mobile radios to convert to 51.700 MHz. The base Station will be used at Georgetown, Ky as the 6 meter/2 meter gateway on an antenna at 280 feet. The DIGI at Seymour will be at 75 feet and the 6 meter antenna at the Greenwood Station will be at 90 feet. Should have good coverage for Southern Indiana, Eastern Kentucky, and Southern Ohio on 6 meters. The BBS at Columbus will be at 50 feet. WW9A will be the forwarding BBS into the packet system from KA9ZPA.

Bob WB5VZT and XYL camped out at Grouse Ridge wednesday night until friday evening. Jim N9KVB and Everett KA9PRA dropped by to toss a few fish stories around.

What is the story Sandy WA9RDF is telling? Did someone really put up an antenna at night in the rain? Now, THAT is a dedicated Ham! We also heard that Sandy is cleaning out his shed (with help from N9AZD and WB9UWL).

Joe, Vernie, Bob and XYL's went to an Amish supper recently. They wouldn't let Vernie ride the buggies. Vernie, is the key on the buggy dashboard used to start the horse? We also heard that Vernie rode a 1500 pound bull!

Jim N9KVB will soon be the Bartholomew County Emergency Management RACES Officer! We should give Jim all the help he needs to establish RACES in Bartholomew County. Jim is also a member of MARC.

**TRY TO MAKE THE MEETING SATURDAY!**

YAESU KENWOOD ICOM  
ALINCO STANDARD

**R & L**

**Electronics**

The "Candy" Store for  
Central Indiana Hams!

8524 E. Washington St. Indianapolis 46219

(800) 524-4889

Fax: 898-3027

### New Look For Spark-Gap !

You probably noticed the splash of color on the first page. We also have added an ad for R&L Electronics. The ad will pay for half our monthly postage. Next time you're in the "candy store" tell 'em thanks! One more ad would take care of the whole thing. Any ideas?

### Club Events for May & June

May 15 Club & Testing=ATV Program (Don Miller)

June 5 Equestrian Event

June 13 Masonic Home Event

June 19 Club & Testing

June 26-27 Field Day at Camp Atterbury



### Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

Post Office Box 836 Franklin, In. 46131

Club Repeater: 146.835

Check-in to our weekly sunday nite net at 7 PM

President: Robert Cammack N9IMP

V. President: Randy Shake KC9LC

Secretary: Bill Brinkmann KA9ZMU

Treasurer: Mac McCarty NV9K

Editor: Mac McCarty NV9K

RACES: Bill Brinkmann KA9ZMU

ARES: David Wendt KA9OOH

Activities: Jack Parker NT9J

Rptr. Trustee: Dave Julian WB9YI

Weather: Ben Woods Channel 8